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A Report on Celebration of Van Mahotasav at Cold Desert Field Research Station (CDFRS) cum Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK), Leh, Ladakh Union Territory

The *Juniperus polycarpus* locally known as “Shur”, “Shukpa”, “Shurgu” or “Shuru has immense religious, cultural and ecological importance in the cold desert landscape. This Species is the most preferred species by the Ladakhis. The Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla has developed nursery technique of this species and has raised a large number of seedlings for the benefit of different stakeholders. Van Mahotsav was celebrated by planting *Shukpa* seedlings at CDRS cum VVK, Badami Bag, Leh on dated 9th July, 2021 during the evening hours. On this occasion Director, Scientists and research staff of HFRI, Shimla and DFO, Leh along with other forest officials (21) took active participation in the plantation programme.



Glimpses of Van Mahotasav at VVK, Badamibhag, Leh, Ladakh, UT

